

Kessler, Ellen

From: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC [Stephanie.Strength@wdc.usda.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2009 11:12 AM
To: Lilley, Bliss; Collins, Carly
Subject: FW: CapX2020/USDA/RUS comments
Attachments: Attached Message Part; Attached Message Part

-----Original Message-----

From: ruthfood@charter.net [mailto:ruthfood@charter.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2009 4:56 PM
To: Strength, Stephanie - Washington, DC
Subject: CapX2020/USDA/RUS comments

Ms. Strength,
Additional comments:

Please question the LOCAL need for CapX and consider the NO BUILD option.

Per Carol Overland, Attorney:
in MN: Remember we have 1,900 MW of wind, and that we could shut down
900MW of coal right now based on Xcel's demand alone... and almost shut
down Prairie Island! Monticello nuclear is 600 MW, we could shut that down!

The question to ask the utilities is:

Why do you claim we "need" new generation?
Why do you imply/assume we can't shut down fossil fuel or nuclear fuel now?
Why do you state there are NO alternatives to your project (See the
wind info. above)

I-204-001 DEMANDS HAS DROPPED - HERE IS the Evidence:*

Xcel's 2008 10-K filed February 23, 2009
<<http://investing.businessweek.com/research/stocks/financials/drawFiling.asp?docKey=136-000104746909002013-6PNAQ1ITEM17MR5OD3T090RE08&docFormat=HTM&formType=10-K>>

From their 10-k, p. 10:

* Capacity and Demand

*

Uninterrupted system peak demand for the NSP System's electric
utility for each of the last three years and the forecast for 2009,
assuming normal weather, is listed below.

System Peak Demand (in MW)			
2006	2007	2008	2009 Forecast
9,859	9,427	8,697	9,662

I-204-001

Your comment has been noted. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will describe, in detail, project purpose and need. The justification document which has been accepted by the RUS is the Alternative Evaluation study which is available at:
<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.